



Club Diabetico Aruba is now in full swing.

In a press conference at the Chamber of Commerce building held earlier this week the board of Club Diabetico Aruba (C.D.A.) announced that the organization was well established to provide the services to members that had been slated for some time. The introduction of a number of new educational tools and a special discount card for members will assist those afflicted with diabetes in the proper maintenance of their health, and also, it is the hope of the board, prevention of the increase of diabetics.

Diabetes is a serious problem world wide and the proportion of the Aruban population with the disease is startling. The CDA board reports that 15,000 are known to have diabetes, while the real number may be as much as 20,000 individuals. This is fifteen to possibly twenty percent of the population of Aruba, a figure to cause some alarm.

Because of the rapid growth of diabetes amongst the local population, Club Diabetico Aruba was formed about six months ago by the management and staff of Botica di Servicio. Membership in Club includes an ID card personalized with your name, picture, date of birth, AZV number and your own registration number. CDA members become eligible for discounts, special offers or and special rates at the following companies: Shoe Baloo, Yoga in movement, Body Pulse, Optica Moderna, Herbalife, Subway, FootFit and Botica di Servicio. Presently CDA has about 400 members who will be enjoying these benefits. The list of participating vendors continues to grow.

In addition to the discount card members will also receive a quarterly newsletter titled "Semper di Bo," which contains information on diabetes. This newsletter contains several articles on a variety of topics including the latest news in the medical advances for diabetics. There will be tips on how to take care of specific areas of your body, nutritional information, a sports-activities calendar and much more. The newsletter is published in both English and Papiamentu.

Obtaining membership in the Club Diabetico Aruba can be achieved by putting one's name on a sign-up sheet which is in the CDA folder (available at physicians, FootFit and Botica di Servicio) or passing personally at one of the Botica di Servicio locations.

The membership fee is an annual nominal fee of Awg 25, with an initial registration fee of Awg 25.

Upon registration, new members will receive a welcome package that includes a blood-glucose- indicator, test-strips, and lancets, which have a value of Awg 87.50.

Companies can also sign up their employees as a group. For more information about group membership contact the secretary of CDA, Koen Eskens at Tel #584-4833 or e-mail: kpjeskens@boticadiservicio.com.